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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY Rumania

SUBJECT Rumanian Chemical Troops

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REFERENCES

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1. A chemical squad is composed of five men and a chief. Their missions are:
 - a. reconnaissance, identification and signpost marking of the contaminated areas;
 - b. determination of the non-infected zones permitting the passage of infantry;
 - c. acquisition of objects (dirt, grass, et cetera) likely to be infected by gas, and their shipment to laboratories for analysis; and
 - d. capture, from the enemy, of protective material, which is also sent to laboratories for analysis and studies.
2. Equipment: the chief of the squad is armed with an Oritza automatic pistol. He has a compass, binoculars, a sketchbook, colored pencils, erasers, gas mask, and a light protective overall. The other members of the chemical squad are armed with Soviet rifles of the Mossin-Nagant type. They are equipped with masks, and dressed in light protective clothing. The soldiers also have the necessary material for marking the gassed areas and for indicating the safe passage areas.
3. The couriers, who are at the disposal of the squad's chief, are equipped with machine pistols, masks, and light protective clothing.
4. The chemical observer is a chemical private. He is sent forward as near as possible to the enemy lines. His mission is to observe the enemy's chemical equipment and to report his findings. He also must give the alarm in case a chemical attack is likely to start. The chemical observer is equipped with automatic pistol, binoculars, and signaling apparatus (optical, acoustical, telephone or radio-telephone).

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5. The chemical watch unit is composed of two soldiers. They are sent forward as near as possible to the enemy. Their mission is to prevent a chemical attack. The soldiers are equipped with automatic pistols, masks, and signaling apparatus. They carry with them pieces of wood covered with rags or straw which has been previously saturated in petroleum. In case the enemy starts a chemical attack, the soldiers set fire to those materials, for signaling purposes.
6. The Chemical Battalion: the chemical battalion is divided into four companies. The company has four platoons equipped with two ZB machine guns. The platoon is composed of four squads, with 10 men in each squad. The commanders of the companies, platoons and squads, as well as their replacements are equipped with Oritza automatic pistols. The men have Mossin-Nagant Soviet rifles. Each squad is provided with a ZB 7.92 millimeter automatic rifle.
7. Location of the Chemical Battalions: the chemical battalions are located in the following cities:
 - a. Fagaras, in the same building as the Chemical Center;
 - b. Bucharest, in the Malmaison barracks; and
 - c. Roman, province of Moldavia.

The uniforms of the chemical troops are standard army type with yellow insignia on the collar.

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